

TI-28444

Patent Amendment

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated December 3, 2003. Applicant has amended claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 9, 10, 14-16, and 19, and added claims 20-23. Claims 4, 11 and 13 have been canceled. Reconsideration and favorable action in this case are respectfully requested.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-3, 10-12 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 4,944,009 to Micali. Applicant has reviewed this reference in detail and does not believe that it discloses or makes obvious the invention as claimed.

Applicant notes with appreciation that the Examiner has indicated that claims 4-9 and 13-19 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Applicant has amended claim 1 to incorporate the subject matter of claim 4 and has amended claim 10 to incorporate the subject matter of claim 13. The subject matter of claim 7, which was indicated as allowable prior to amendment of claim 1, has been added as new claim 20. The subject matter of claim 8, which was indicated as allowable prior to amendment of claim 1, has been added as new claim 21. Claim 9 has been amended to depend on claim 21. The subject matter of claim 17, which was indicated as allowable prior to amendment of claim 10, has been added as claim 22. The subject matter of claim 18, which was indicated as allowable prior to amendment of claim 10, has been added as claim 23. Claim 19 has been amended to depend on claim 23.

Claim 2 was amended for clarity due to changes to claim 1. Claims 5 and 6 were amended for proper dependency after the cancellation of claim 4, the subject matter of which was incorporated into claim 1. Claims 14-16 were amended for proper dependency after the cancellation of claim 13, the subject matter of which was incorporated into claim 10.

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With the addition of four independent claims and cancellation of three dependent claims, a fee is due for an additional three independent claims, since previously the application had 19 claims, with two dependent claims. A Fee Statement is included herewith to cover the cost of these claims.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayment, including extension fees, to Deposit Account No. 20-0668 of Texas Instruments Incorporated.

Applicant has made a diligent effort to place the claims in condition for allowance. However, should there remain unresolved issues that require adverse action, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone Alan W. Lintel, Applicant's Attorney at (972) 664-9595 so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

For these reasons, and in view of the above amendments, this application is now considered to be in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,



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